



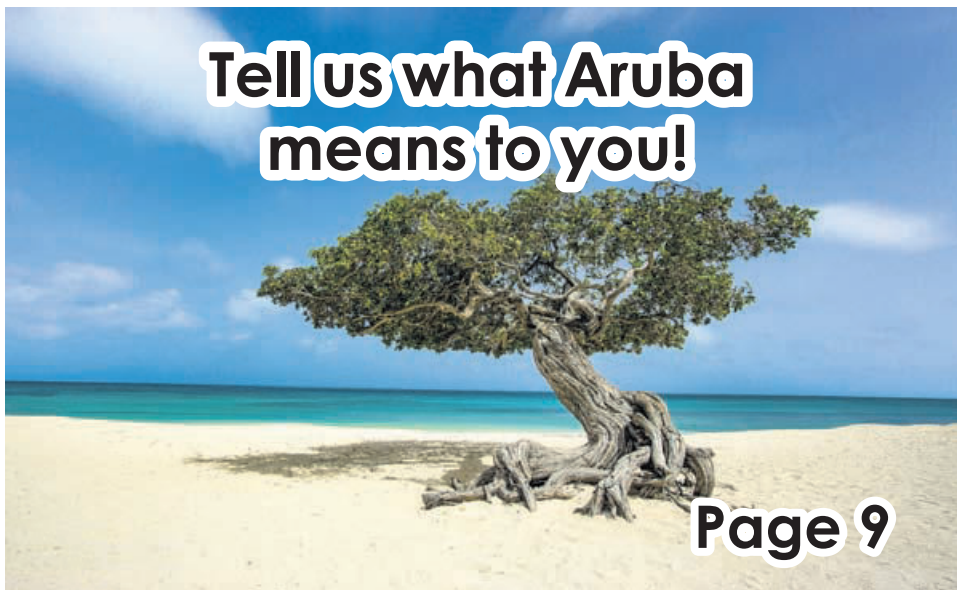
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John Ternes to lead Apple in the age of AI



In this photo released by Apple, Apple's John Ternes introduces the new MacBook Pro during an online event unveiling new products at Apple Park in Cupertino, California on October 18, 2021.

San Francisco, United States

The future of Apple is being entrusted to a company veteran said to combine hardware brilliance with "the soul of an innovator." John Ternes, 50, will take over as Apple chief executive in September, with Tim Cook becoming executive chairman of the iPhone maker's board of directors. "John Ternes has the mind of an engineer, the soul of an innovator, and the heart to lead with integrity and with honor," Cook said when his successor was revealed.

"He is without question the right person to lead Apple into the future." That claim was the subject of debate on Tuesday, with some wondering whether software skills were more vital to Apple's success given how artificial intelligence is shaking up the tech world. "Despite popular opinion, I think hardware will be critical to AI uptake," said Creative Strategies analyst Carolina Milanesi. "Hardware, especially silicon (chips), is what brings AI to life."

- Calm continuity -

Ternes joined Apple's design team in 2001, working his way up to senior vice president of hardware engineering, reporting to Cook. Ternes leads the engineering teams for Apple's product line-up, including the iPhones that account for

most of its revenue and Mac computers with performance well-suited for AI tasks. He earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and worked as an engineer at Virtual Research Systems prior to joining Apple. Ternes is credited with leading a drive to make Apple products more durable, reliable and resilient, as well as innovative designs that reduced their carbon footprint. Picking Ternes as its next chief signals Apple prioritizing market-calming corporate continuity over radical change, according to Francisco Jeronimo, vice president of client devices at market analytics firm IDC.

"Few people inside or outside the company understand Apple's product architecture as well as he does," Jeronimo said. "The short and medium-term business is probably in safe hands." Apple has an enormous base of loyal users and improved models of iPhone, Mac, and wearables in the pipeline that promise to bode well for its fortunes in the near future, Jeronimo reasoned. "The harder question is what comes next, and specifically how Apple will pivot to new growth engines when the steam from the iPhone begins to fade," Je-

ronimo said. "The next significant wave of consumer technology is not about the phone; it is about AI." That is where strategic pressure on Ternes will be most acute, according to the analyst.

- Channeling Steve Jobs? -

A big question will be whether Ternes has "the appetite for the kind of bold, occasionally uncomfortable decisions" that defining an Apple AI platform will require. Legendary Apple co-founder Steve Jobs was known for brutal honesty and unyielding perfectionism that led to culture-changing devices. Ternes has a reputation as a decisive leader, where Cook was known for shepherding teams to collaborative conclusions.

"Ternes brings a fresh, younger view of the world and clearly an appetite for success," analyst Milanesi said. Wedbush analyst Dan Ives expects Apple's annual developers conference in June to put Ternes and his vision for the company center stage. "In this AI World Apple has more cash, consumers, and brand recognition than any company in the world but now is the time to flex the muscles and go on the offensive instead of the defensive," Ives wrote in a note to investors. □



A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket is displayed outside a Space Exploration Technologies Corp. facility in Hawthorne, California on March 26, 2026.

SpaceX partners with AI startup Cursor, may buy it for \$60B

San Francisco, United States

SpaceX on Tuesday announced a partnership with AI coding company Cursor and said the alliance comes with an option to buy the startup for \$60 billion later this year.

The move by Elon Musk's rocket and satellite company comes as it prepares to become publicly traded, and shortly after it took over the billionaire's artificial intelligence outfit xAI.

Cursor, founded in 2022 and based in San Francisco, specializes in AI for creating software code, particularly for business uses.

"SpaceXAI and @cursor_ai are now working closely together to create the world's best coding and knowledge work AI," the company said in a post on X. Combining Cursor's software and product expertise with SpaceX's "Colossus" AI training supercomputer will enable the company "to build the world's most useful models," it said.

The partnership comes as AI sector rivals vie to be the preferred option for software developers. Cursor competes with Microsoft's social coding platform GitHub, which has been a leading resource in the developer community.

OpenAI announced on Tuesday that its coding tool, Codex, has grown to four million weekly users, up from three million just weeks ago.

Meanwhile, Anthropic has put out word that revenue from its Claude Code tool for developers has surged.

- AI in the sky -

Musk announced in February that SpaceX would acquire xAI, a step in his plan to launch solar-powered, satellite-based data centers to run future AI models. SpaceX has set the pace in the space launch market, offering reusable rockets that vastly reduce the cost of putting satellites into orbit and itself owning the largest satellite constellation, Starlink.

The company is set for a stock market listing this year widely expected to be the biggest in history, with media reports pointing to an initial public offering (IPO) as early as June.

Musk called SpaceX's absorption of xAI "not just the next chapter, but the next book" for the companies. "Global electricity demand for AI simply cannot be met with terrestrial solutions... The only logical solution therefore is to transport these resource-intensive efforts to a location with vast power and space," Musk wrote when his companies were merged. □

New drugs raise hopes of pancreatic cancer breakthrough

Paris, France

After decades of struggling to find a way to treat pancreatic cancer, researchers have developed several promising new drugs that could offer rare hope to patients given this particularly deadly diagnosis. Pancreatic cancer is notoriously aggressive, with only roughly one in 10 people surviving more than five years after being diagnosed, research has shown. Rates of this cancer have also been surging worldwide, notably among young adults. It is projected to become the second deadliest cancer, after lung cancer, in developed countries in the coming years.

Despite the scale of this scourge, there has not been "any medical progress for 40 years," Patrick Mehlen, a researcher at France's Leon Berard cancer centre, told AFP. But more funding and interest over the last decade has finally been making a "real difference," he added.

While a cure is still a long way off for most patients, some of these new drugs could add precious months to their lifespan. The most widely celebrated news came last week,



Teacher-researcher Maryvonne Ardourel points towards a pancreatic cancer cell on a micrograph displayed on a screen at the Inserm ART-RNA laboratory of the CHR (Regional Hospital Centre), in Orleans, central France, on November 18, 2025.

when U.S. pharma firm Revolution Medicines announced positive results for its experimental drug daraxonrasib.

The drug targets a protein called KRAS which is known to play an important role in tumour growth.

Half of the patients taking the pill survived more than 13 months twice as long as a control group receiving chemotherapy.

This may not sound revolutionary, but for a cancer that kills so quickly, doubling the life expectancy of patients is unprecedented.

- 'Heck of a lot better' -

One high-profile patient has spoken out about just what a difference the drug can make.

Ben Sasse, a former senator from the U.S. state of Nebraska, started taking daraxonrasib after being diagnosed with metastasised, stage-four pancreatic cancer late last year.

"In mid-December I got a three-to-four month life expectancy," the 54-year-old told the New York Times.

After taking the drug, "I'm doing a heck of a lot better

than I was doing at Christmas," Sasse said.

He added that it was "a nasty drug", pointing to severe side effects that left his face peeling and bloody.

Revolution Medicines has said it will soon apply for its treatment to be approved in the United States. More detailed results about the phase 3 trial will be presented at the ASCO cancer conference in Chicago next month.

Meanwhile, other researchers have been exploring alternative ways to extend the lives of pancreatic can-

cer patients.

Early trial results, published in the journal *Nature* on Wednesday, tested a treatment that is not designed to directly eradicate tumours.

Instead, it aims to prevent cancerous cells from starting a process that makes them resistant to other drugs including chemotherapy.

The NP137 antibody was tested on 43 patients receiving chemo whose cancer had spread through their pancreas, but not to other parts of their body.

Compared to normal survival rates, the patients lived several months longer, according to the phase 1b trial.

"We're giving people an average of six months more which is significant for this disease," said Mehlen, who supervised the research.

The team plans to conduct another trial with a larger sample size and a control group later this year.

Ultimately, Mehlen hopes his drug will not just extend the lives of people receiving chemotherapy, but also daraxonrasib.

New cancer vaccine
Promising early trial results were also announced over the weekend for an experimental pancreatic cancer vaccine. □

U.K. agrees ban on cigarette sales for people born after 2008

London, United Kingdom

Both chambers of Britain's parliament have approved a bill that would ban children aged 17 and under from buying cigarettes during their lifetime. The Tobacco and Vapes Bill aims to stop anyone born after January 1, 2009 (now aged 17) from taking up smoking.

Health minister Wes Streeting called this a "historic moment for the nation's health" that will lead to the "first smoke-free generation, protected from a lifetime of addiction and harm". When it gets royal assent and becomes law, it will give the government powers to extend an in-

door smoking ban to outdoor spaces such as children's playgrounds and areas outside schools and hospitals.

It will also give the government new powers to restrict the flavours and packaging of vapes and ban vaping in places where smoking is already banned.

The bill is part of a drive to ramp up preventative health measures and ease long-term pressure on the UK's state-funded National Health Service (NHS).

Hazel Cheeseman, director of public health charity Action on Smoking and Health (ASH), told LBC radio station that the bill was

a "decisive turning point for public health".

The Labour government in June last year introduced a ban on the sale of disposable vapes, which are cheap and come in colourful packaging that make them popular with young people.

New Zealand in 2022 became the first country to enact such a law against smoking, banning the sale of cigarettes to those born after 2008. But a newly elected conservative coalition repealed the law in November 2023, less than a year after it was introduced.

The Maldives in November last year banned the sale

of cigarettes to anyone born after January 1, 2007. Smoking in England causes around 75,000 deaths per

year and is responsible for around a quarter of all deaths, according to the NHS. □



An undated handout image released by Action on Smoking and Health (UK) (ASH (UK)) in London on May 19, 2016 shows a mock-up design of a standardised cigarette pack.

One month phone-free: Young Americans try digital detox

Washington, United States

Getting around without Google Maps. No longer scrolling Instagram at the bus stop. Ditching your headphones to hear the birds sing.

In March, a group of 20- and 30-somethings in the US capital swapped their smartphones for basic flip phones and embarked on a one-month digital detox, part of an emerging movement of young Americans seeking to break free from the harmful effects of social media.

"I was waiting for a bus, and I didn't know when it would come," recalled Jay West, 29, who took part in the Month Offline challenge organized by a small startup with support from a local community group.

Old habits die hard, and West, who works as a data analyst for Washington's metro system, said he would often find himself reaching into his pocket for his cell phone, only to realize there was nothing on it. But in the end, he said, it was liberating.

"I was bored sometimes, and that's okay," West recalled one recent evening at a city community garden



Painter August Lamm, a former social media influencer with over 100K followers, poses at her art studio in east London, on February 18, 2025.

where detox participants met to share their struggles and joys of disconnecting. "It's okay to be bored."

Sitting beside him was Rachael Schultz, 35, who had to ask strangers on bicycles for directions. There was also Lizzie Benjamin, 25, who dug out old CDs her father had burned so she could listen to music without Spotify.

Before the detox, Bobby Loomis, 25, who works in real estate, struggled to

watch even a single episode of a TV series without checking his phone.

But now, without his headphones, he enjoyed listening to birds sing as he took walks around Washington. And when the detox ended, his daily screen time dropped from six to four hours, roughly in line with the average for American adults.

- 'Enriching, communal, social life' -

Scientists have long been sounding the alarm, warning that cell phone addiction is associated with shortened attention spans, sleep problems and anxiety.

In a landmark ruling in late March, a California court ruled Instagram and YouTube are liable for the addictive nature of their platforms.

An increasing number of young Americans are finally taking note. According to a YouGov poll conducted

last year, more than two-thirds of people aged 18 to 29 would like to reduce their screen time.

And new tools are available to make that happen: digital detox apps, phone-blocking gadgets, and groups, such as the one in Washington, that facilitate month-long detoxes. On university campuses, weeks-long social media diets have become popular and screen-free evenings among friends have become a thing in big cities.

Going smartphone-free even for a couple of weeks leads to "better well-being and improved ability to sustain attention," said Kostadin Kushlev, a psychology researcher at Georgetown University.

Preliminary studies suggest those effects persist over time, he added.

Josh Morin, one of the organizers of the detox programs in Washington, believes that simply ditching the phone is not enough and that an appealing alternative is vital. His program involves a weekly discussion session for participants held at a karaoke bar in a trendy neighborhood of the US capital. □

U.S. court allows public schools to display Ten Commandments

Houston, United States

A U.S. appeals court ruled Tuesday that Texas can require the Bible's Ten Commandments to be displayed in public schools, a win for Christian conservatives who want their faith in classrooms.

The 120-page decision by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals came in response to the legal battle that sprang up after a Texas law, Senate Bill 10 (SB10), required the scripture be posted in every classroom which met legal challeng-

es from families of diverse faiths with children in public schools.

The ruling filed in the southern city of New Orleans Tuesday said the mandate to display the Biblical text does not create "an imposition on the consciences of Texas students or parents" and plaintiffs "failed to show that SB10 imposes a substantial burden on their free exercise rights."

Judges also ruled that SB10 was not in violation of the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution, the part of the First Amendment that prohibits the government from establishing a national religion or showing preference to one over another.

Texas school authorities, families and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

had challenged SB10 in court, saying children's religious beliefs were to be instilled by parents and faith communities, not public schools.

"We are extremely disappointed in today's decision. The Court's ruling goes against fundamental First Amendment principles and binding U.S. Supreme Court authority," the ACLU wrote in a statement Tuesday.

"The First Amendment safeguards the separation of church and state, and the freedom of families to choose how, when and if to provide their children with religious instruction." Tuesday's ruling reverses a district court's injunction barring implementation of the law, with judge Fred Biery writing in that ruling

that SB10 "impermissibly takes sides on theological questions and officially favors Christian denominations over others."

The ruling also noted that "countless public schools -- including Texas's -- open the day with students reciting the Pledge" of Allegiance, which leads children to say "one nation, under God."

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, a Republican, praised the ruling on social media for upholding the measure approved by the Texas state legislature in June 2025.

"The Ten Commandments have had a profound impact on our nation, and it's important that students learn from them every single day," Paxton wrote in a post on X. □



The oldest known stone tablet inscribed with the Ten Commandments, dating from 300 to 800 A.D., is displayed at Sotheby's auction house on December 09, 2024 in New York City.

Inside the world of ultra-luxury wedding cakes

Paris, France

Competing for attention with Jennifer Lopez is no easy task. But at a recent wedding in India where the American star performed in a barely-there sparkly leotard, it was arguably the cake that stole the show. The towering multi-tier construction, several metres high and inspired by Rajasthani architecture, became a talking point among guests and featured prominently in media coverage of the 500-guest extravaganza last November.

Its designer was French celebrity pastry chef Bastien Blanc-Tailleur, whose creations are to cakes what Haute Couture is to fashion: one-off, handmade and requiring extraordinary investments in time and money. "We rarely work on a wedding that has a budget of less than a million euros," the 34-year-old told AFP in his studio outside Paris, surrounded by five of his latest edible sculptures.

The marriage ceremony of billionaire heiress Netra Mantena and tech entrepreneur Vamsi Gadiraju last November in Udaipur cost a reported \$6.7 million, with



French pastry chef Bastien Blanc-Tailleur decorates a wedding cake at his studio in Saint-Remy-les-Chevreuse, southwestern Paris on April 10, 2026.

J-Lo said to have pocketed two million for her appearance.

Blanc-Tailleur declines to reveal prices, saying only that his most modest custom-made cakes start at 20,000 euros (\$23,500) and the elaborate signature pieces can cost multiple times that.

The Indian order comprised five cakes in total: the main creation with tumbling

orchids, elephants and dome-shaped pavilions in white sugar-paste, and then two more cakes for the families, as well as another pair which were lowered from the ceiling. They took an estimated 3,500 hours of work.

"We probably hit the top limit of what we're capable of," Blanc-Tailleur explained, adding: "It was one of the projects that I'm the most proud of."

- Challenges -

Blanc-Tailleur's artistry, which he said draws on French traditions dating back to the 1700s which then spread to Britain and America, depends on the patronage of wealthy clients around the world.

Middle East royals, wealthy American scions and European aristocrats compete for his limited services: with a full-time staff of only 10,

he can only produce about 20 to 25 cakes a year.

The US and Israeli attack on Iran on February 28, which has sparked a regional conflict encompassing much of the Middle East, has upended the well-laid plans of some of these customers.

"Lots of weddings have been pushed back to next year or the year after," he told AFP.

"Several clients who were going to get married in Israel or in Lebanon or in Saudi Arabia have changed and are going to get married in France instead," he added. In the eight years since he started his business, he's had other challenges: the Covid epidemic in 2020-21, as well as problems transporting and finishing his fragile cakes at the ultra-VIP castles and hotels that serve as venues. Logistical issues at the Indian event last November meant Blanc-Tailleur faced a last-minute dash to source eggs and butter for the cake's base.

"Right up until the last-minute we were not sure we were able to deliver the project in the best way," he said. □

Macarons used to bore me, says French pioneer Pierre Herme

Paris, France

Pierre Herme, the French master of macarons, says he was inspired to build his multi-country empire selling the sugary French treats by a desire to reinvent an object he felt was boring.

Starting out his career aged 14, he discovered macarons, two halves of light almond biscuit separated by a sugary aromatic filling, while working at high-end Parisian brands Fauchon and Laduree.

"We made vanilla, chocolate and coffee, and very quickly I realised I didn't like that. It bored me," he told AFP in an interview. Descended from a long line of bakers and pastry chefs from Alsace in eastern France, Herme found-

ed his own brand in 1997, calling it "Pierre Hermé" and adopting the language and look of high-end fashion labels. His first store was in Tokyo before another one followed in Paris. Unexpected flavour pair-

ings became his signature, such as the famous Mogador milk chocolate and passion fruit or Ispahan, a best-seller combining raspberry, lychee and rose.

"Overnight, I was selling almost nothing else," he explained.

His shops can now be found everywhere from Jakarta to Tashkent.

The man dubbed in the press "the Picasso of pastry" presides over 110 outlets worldwide.

"What has made me successful over the past 50 years? Audacity," he told AFP.

- 'Lack of meaning' -

Aged 64, he no longer touches a spatula at work, but he happily cooks at home in Paris where he has a 2,000-bottle wine cellar. He also travels extensively and collects art.

Having come of age long before the internet and social media, Herme is disdainful of some of the influencer-driven trends in food nowadays that others see as helping promote home

cooking and innovation in the kitchen.

"What particularly annoys me is the lack of meaning. There's noise, but no meaning in the creation," he comments.

He has various industry roles including president of a World Cup for dessert-making and vice-president of the leading global association of pastry chefs, Relais Desserts.

He is also preparing a bid to have French pastry-making expertise recognised as part of UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage.

His priority is to ensure his brand continues to thrive despite the well-known risks of over-expansion that can see standards fall for consumers. □



French pastry chef Pierre Herme poses at Pierre Herme's headquarters in Paris on March 24, 2026.

Young Chinese use AI to launch one-person firms over job anxiety

Shanghai, China

Young Chinese, many who fear age discrimination in their workplace after turning 35, are increasingly starting "one-person companies" that have artificial intelligence do most of the work.

Smaller startups are already in vogue in Silicon Valley and elsewhere, with rapidly advancing AI tools seen as a welcome teammate even as they threaten layoffs at existing firms.

More young people in China are subscribing to the model, as cities pledge millions of dollars in funding and rent subsidies for such ventures, in alignment with Beijing's political goal of "technological self-reliance".

"The one-person company is a product of the AI era," said Karen Dai, founder of Shanghai-based SoloNest, which hosts weekend events for solo entrepreneurs.

In the past, it was very difficult to run a business on your own, she said, but the range of tasks that AI can help with has "lowered the entry barrier".

On a Sunday in Shanghai, around 20 people in their 20s and 30s packed into a conference room for Dai's 134th iteration of a three-



The photo taken on April 12, 2026 shows founder of one-person company SoloNest Karen Dai preparing participants' name tags for a coffee chat at a conference room in Shanghai.

hour ideas swap on going it alone.

One attendee, Wang Tianyi, now earns up to 40,000 yuan (\$5,800) per month making AI-generated commercials for businesses.

The 26-year-old, who quit his product manager job at an internet company last year, predicts that people flying solo will become a "major trend".

"Because of the technological empowerment brought on by AI, (one-person companies) have an efficiency advantage," he

told AFP.

- 'Invisible line' -

On Chinese social media, people have lamented for years the so-called "curse of 35" -- widespread age discrimination in tech, government and other competitive sectors.

"At 35 years old, there's like this invisible line," said Dai, who is 38.

"People might face some challenges in the workplace. The company might re-evaluate who is more fit to stay."

But young people, who wit-

nessed a decade of rapid economic expansion in China, have a hunger to grow, said Dai, also author of the book "One Person Company".

"When you're 30 or even younger, you'll ask yourself: when I reach that invisible line of 35, what preparations should I make?" she said.

Shanghai resident Wei Xin, 34, knew her job as a document reviewer at a foreign consulting firm would be replaced by AI before it actually happened.

So she signed up for a

course on Google's Gemini and dabbled in creating an AI-generated digital version of herself, before turning to social media content creation.

"There's a bit of AI anxiety," said Wei, who returned to China last year after completing a degree in the United States.

"If I don't use it, don't approach it, I might soon be eliminated."

- Government 'carrots' -

Chinese municipalities are rolling out policies to support AI-powered one-person companies, using the initials "OPC" a rare use of English in official policy.

In November, the eastern city of Suzhou vowed to cultivate "more than 10,000 OPC talents" by 2028 and funnel around 700 million yuan (\$100 million) towards sectors including AI robotics, healthcare and smart transportation.

Southwestern Chengdu also last month promised subsidies of up to 20,000 yuan for graduates to establish AI-driven one-person firms.

These measures are "carrots to help these startups get off the ground and be successful", said Brookings fellow Kyle Chan, an expert on China's technology development. □

U.S.-based Buddhist monks bring peace walk to Sri Lanka

Colombo, Sri Lanka

Saffron-robed Buddhist monks began a week-long peace walk across Sri

Lanka on Wednesday, accompanied by a rescued stray dog that has become a celebrity in its own right.



Vietnamese Buddhist monk Bhikkhu Pannakara (C) accompanied by Sri Lankan army commandos walks with his pet dog Aloka, a stray dog rescued from India, at the start of the 'Walk For Peace' pilgrimage in Dambulla, in northcentral Sri Lanka on April 22, 2026.

Led by Vietnamese monk Pannakara, the group of 13 launched their march at dawn from a historic Buddhist temple in Dambulla, about 160 kilometers (100 miles) north of the capital Colombo.

The monks shot to international fame during a longer 108-day walk of 3,700 kilometers (2,300 miles) from Texas to Washington, DC, travelling through freezing temperatures and along ice-covered roads.

In sharp contrast, they are now walking barefoot on Sri Lanka's roads at the hottest time of the year, when temperatures can reach 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit). Devotees poured water

on the streets, while some laid green banana leaves and flowers for the monks to walk on to escape the scorching heat. Others were seen sprinkling water to cool them.

The group, promoting "peace for all beings, including animals", was expected to reach the capital on April 28, where they will be received by President Anura Kumara Disanayake, organizers told AFP.

Guarded by elite army commandos, their mascot Aloka a stray dog rescued in India walked on a leash, drawing bows and clasped hands from devotees lining the route.

Aloka had accompanied the monks in their peace walk in the United States.

The dog followed the monks in India and remained with them even after being hit by a car.

Aloka later accompanied the monks on their U.S. journey, drawing global attention and donations that helped fund its travels.

"The cost of flying Aloka to Colombo from Texas was ten times that of an ordinary passenger taking the same route," a Sri Lankan monk handling local arrangements said.

Two army commandos were seen walking on either side of Aloka at the head of the quick-paced procession. □

Aruba's neighborhoods; the meaning behind their names



Just like any other country, Aruba has unique and beautifully named neighborhoods that all form a part of its culture and development. Many of these names have a historical background and meaning that teaches us about the island and its rich culture every day.

With this series, we want to take you on a journey of discovery, where you'll learn not only the beautiful names but the history behind it that gives it life and meaning.

Anabui/Tierra Del Sol

This neighborhood can be seen on Van Raders map and Werbata as Anna Boei. Anna Boei is a name of which there isn't much information about its origin.

The best historians were able to deduce is that this name came to be because of a miscommunication between Van Spengler and the na-

tives who were living on the island. In the Arawak/Taino language one can find the word Anaiboa, which consists of Ana meaning flower or the best and Iboa; the juice of a cassava, which together would mean "the best juice of a cassava".

If one assumes that the actual word heard was Anaboio instead, consisting of Ana meaning the best and Boio (bohio); house, the iteration of Anabui would mean "the best house." This is the origin that has been more or less speculated and assumed for the word Anabui and its meaning.

During the Second World War and later, this area was used as a terrain for training of shooting by militia and later on Korps Mariniers (the marines of Aruba). By the end of the previous century a large part of Anabui was developed to have

luxurious villas and a golf course, which lead to it getting the name Tierra Del Sol, Spanish for Land of the Sun. The name is not an official name, but the name of the development project that took place. It is hoped that the original and 'old' name of Anabui is never lost and

now it will be remembered by both locals and tourists.

Angochi

This name can be seen on the Werbata map with little and cursive letters. It is the unofficial name for the area given by a tenant to the land that was rented to him.

The biggest probability that historians believe is that it comes from native descent, during the time in the 19th century where Mestizos still lived on Aruba. The name can't really be explain and according to books on its history seems to be more of a sign of corruption.

However, it seems to come from combining A(n), which is a generalizing prefix and Goeiza, which means 'the spirit of a living man'. Angochi remains more of a guess.

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; An.□



Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our Candelchi!

ORANJESTAD—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the "Candelchi" (Squirrelfish), a common, yet shy fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba.

Let's talk about the names of fish. Do you know your fish? The Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries, known as Santa Rosa, offers this informative article that illustrates some fish and their names in Papiamentu.

Candelchi, Squirrelfish, Holocentrus adscensionis: Candelchi actually refers

to the entire squirrelfish family or, as some say, when we say candelchi, we mean several different species but without distinguishing them by species. In this picture, we are showing the most common one in our waters, which is called squirrelfish in English or scientifically known as *Holocentrus adscensionis*.

Under candelchi, we in Aruba generally refer to all the different species of squirrelfish. They all look alike and it's really difficult to distinguish between them.

The squirrelfish family is distinguished by the following characteristics. They are

heart-shaped with pink or red hues and often show heart-shaped streaks between the scales along the body. They have hard fins and are always armed. Over at our sister island Curaçao, they are called "bari di clabo" (nail barrel) for that reason.

In our waters, there are 7 to 8 types or species present and they are sometimes caught and seen occasionally. They can be distinguished by different marks such as color on the dorsal spine or marks on the body.

In Aruba:

Candelchi are found on reefs or areas with struc-

ture in the water where they can hide. Although they prefer to hunt for food at night, they are also active during the day. They are edible and delicious when prepared dry and

crispy with lime. It is particularly challenging to scale the fish, which is why it is not one of the favorites among fishermen. They often live in groups. □



Radisson Blu Aruba Celebrates Five Years of Growth, Local Leadership, and a Distinct Approach to Hospitality

Radisson Blu Aruba proudly marked its fifth anniversary on April 2nd, celebrating a journey that began during one of the most challenging moments for global travel and has since grown into a recognized hotel on the island, led by a local team.

"This was an unfinished condo building on Palm Beach that we took over and turned into a fully operational hotel. Without direct beach access, we knew we had to be creative and focus on what really matters, delivering genuine service and creating experiences that feel authentic to Aruba. From day one, it's been about doing things our way," says Luigi Wix, General Manager.

Today, Radisson Blu Aruba is led by a fully local leadership team and has built a reputation not only for its product, but for its people, establishing itself as a preferred employer on



the island, with pay that stands out in the market.

A Signature Celebration at Blu Tap Cider

The main anniversary event took place at Blu Tap Cider, the Caribbean's first cider bar and one of the resort's newest concepts.

The celebration welcomed clients and partners for an evening of cider tastings, curated canapés, seafood station, Veuve Clicquot served throughout the evening, and a live Jamón Ibérico carving experience by Don Esteban Gourmet, the hotel's Spanish tapas concept.

An In-House Toast to Guests

On April 1st, the hotel hosted a rooftop anniversary toast for in-house guests, featuring Veuve Clicquot, curated canapés, and live steelpan music.



"5 Years, 5 Stories" Campaign

The anniversary also included the "5 Years, 5 Stories" campaign, highlighting key moments from the hotel's journey. As part of the campaign, five winners received a three-night stay for \$5, symbolizing the five-year milestone.

Looking Ahead

Five years in, Radisson Blu Aruba remains committed to its people, its local roots, and doing things differently.



"As we look ahead, our focus remains clear. We will continue to invest in our people, strengthen a team built on local talent, and maintain our position as one of the best-paying hotels on the island. It's about continuing to do things our way. That same focus will shape the experience we create for our guests, keeping it genuine, social, and connected to the island," says Shareska Gutierrez, Director of Commercial Strategy.

The hotel will continue to evolve, with new ideas and concepts on the way, in a way that respects how locals live and enjoy Aruba.

For more information or to make a reservation at this award-winning hotel, visit www.bluaruba.com or <https://www.choicehotels.com/AW007>.



Fun facts about cacti hedges "Trankera"

(Oranjestad) – When off-roading in inland Aruba, you may notice some cacti hedges around various properties or lined up by

certain pathways. These man-made hedges are called "trankera" and play an important role in maintaining our flora and fauna.

The trankera dates to colonialism, where settlers established several 'cunucu' (farm) on the island. Peo-



ple either used stone walls or trankera as a fence to ward off strangers and wild animals that can feed on the cunucu vegetation or cattle.

Nowadays, trankeras are less common, and those that still stand are often not maintained. On the surface this seems like a bad development, however this proved to be beneficial for our flora and fauna. Naturally developed flora

around the hedges offers more shelter for fauna. Another aspect is the propagation process. When pruning hedges, flowers and seeds were removed, which limits propagation to a minimum.

So, though trankeras don't play that big of a role in Aruba's agriculture anymore, our environment still reaps the benefits of these long-standing natural structures. □

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Magnet Perfume Jewelry & Cosmetics | The Lazy Lizard
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Naturalesa ta Papia: A Call to Listen and Act for Aruba's Nature

ORANJESTAD –This Earth Day, the Aruba Conservation Foundation (ACF) invites the community of Aruba and beyond to pause and reflect on a simple but urgent message: nature is speaking. The question is, is it being heard?

With the launch of Naturalesa ta Papia (Nature is Speaking), ACF presents a short video that brings viewers closer to Aruba's natural world to be admired and as something to be understood and be protected.

The story unfolds in three acts. It begins with immersing viewers up close in the island's landscapes and species, revealing the beauty and details often overlooked. It then shifts to the growing pressures facing these environments including human impacts on its fragile ecosystem. In its final act, the message offers hope, highlighting the collective efforts of a community needing to work together to protect, preserve, and restore Nature. Filmed entirely in Aruba over the course of two months, the production was carried out with

a profound commitment to respecting Nature. All footage was captured from a respectful distance and under guidance of conservation experts, ensuring minimal disturbance to wildlife and natural habitats.

"This story is a vehicle to speak about something much larger," says Tyson Lopez, CEO, Aruba Conservation Foundation. "Nature has always been speaking to us, through its beauty, its changes, and even through its growing pressures. But now it's time we move beyond just listening. We need to commit to taking collective action."

Aruba's natural areas are more and more under profound pressure. From our terrestrial areas, our coastal area, and our waters, the humans behave in nature affects its future and ours directly. Nature is Speaking and calls for a shift from passive support and appreciation to taking active responsibility.

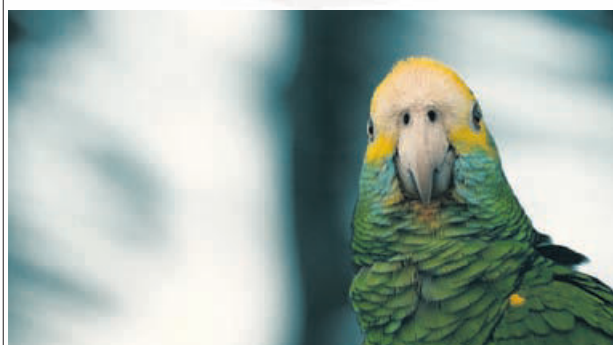
Listening to Nature is not just a feeling. It needs to be reflected in everyday choices like moving with care, respecting boundaries, protecting habitats and making conscious decisions that reduce harm on this place called home. ACF emphasizes that conservation cannot be achieved alone. Conserving Aruba's natural heritage requires collective action from locals, residents, visitors, partners, policymakers, and the entire community.

This Earth Day, Naturalesa ta Papia is a call to listen with intention, and to truly commit to nature's protection.



Nature is already speaking, what happens next is how Aruba, as a community decides to respond.

To learn more about the campaign Naturalesa ta Papia, visit www.acf.aw/naturalesa-ta-papia



Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back or still enjoying your vacation?... we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting

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Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. □



Place names in San Nicolas and their origins

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever taking a tour of Aruba, San Nicolas would definitely be on your itinerary. From relaxing on the white, sandy beaches of Baby and Roger's Beach, to exploring the prehistoric caves of Quadirikiri and Fontein, you are taking in a full view of what San Nicolas has to offer. But did you know that you are also passing through areas whose names have historical origins? Here are a few place names in San Nicolas and their origin story.

Sero Colorado

On your way to Baby or Roger's Beach, you'll pass by the famous Red Anchor at what was once the entrance to the Colony residential community and be greeted with red soiled hills by the coast. This is Sero Colorado. Named after the 30-meter, deep red, limestone hill, "Sero Colorado" translates to "Colored Hill". Sero Colorado has deep historical ties with the once-thriving phosphate industry



in the area. Matter of fact, there are still underground shafts and passages deep in Sero Colorado from the time of phosphate mining. In 1958, the refinery at the time, Lago, adopted this name for the residential section of its employees.

Vader Piet

Another well visited area, Vader Piet is located in the Arikok National Park. Rec-

ognizable sites within this area include the Wind Mills and the Quadirikiri Cave. The origin of this name is part historical and speculation, as there are slight deviations from what actually happened.

In 1829, Pieter Lampe was a planter and the person responsible for governing this remote area. As the story goes, Pieter was well known

and beloved for his kindness and good treatment of his employees, and was therefore also called Vader Piet (Father Piet). However, he was tragically murdered—some speculate at the hands of a slave. For his work and good heart, the area was named after him.

San Nicolas

Of course we can't forget San Nicolas itself. Much

like Vader Piet, the origin of the name San Nicolas has so far two different accounts. In the literal sense, "San Nicolas" translates to "Saint Nicolas", leading many to believe that this district was named after a Spanish saint. Though one account does support this with the theory that the district was named after the saint by Spanish colonizers, the other account is much less divine, but does refer to an influential figure in the area.

Nicolaas van der Biest was a successful landowner during the time of the phosphate boom in late 19th century Aruba. Back then, landowners (most, if not all of them men) were referred to as "Shon" by their subordinates. So, the district was originally named after Shon Nicolaas. Over time, the name evolved into what is now San Nicolas. □

Source: "Aruba: Short History" by Dr. J. Hartog.

Aruban snacks and where to find them

ORANJESTAD — Want to taste something different for a change? How about some Aruban snacks that you can find all around the island? Hop in your car, and go to these locations to find some of the most popular

and tasty snacks that are beloved by our locals.

One of the staples of Aruban cuisine and snacks is the Pastechi. Pastechi is a Caribbean fried pastry that is filled with cheese, meat,

chicken, veggies and sometimes even fish! Or perhaps you might want to try a croquette, locally called a "kroket," which is a crusty fried snack with typically a meat and dough mix filling. The Aruban kroket is based

on its Dutch counterpart, the "bitterbal".

These two snacks are typically found in all local snack trucks, which can be found all over the island, including on the side of the main road that stretches from San Nicolas to the Hotel Area. You can also find them at local bakeries all over the island. These places may also sell other snacks and sandwiches too, perfect for on-the-road lunch break.

While you're at it, why not accompany your snack with a refreshing "batido"? Batidos are fruit shakes, typically made with added milk for some creaminess. However, you can also ask to hold the milk. Batidos are commonly found in snack shops too. You may find some batidos along the flea market downtown.

If you are looking for something a bit more fresh and healthy, why not try some

coconuts, or shaved ice from local vendors? These vendors carry their little shop at the back of their truck, so they are ever-moving around the island. However, there are a few spots where you can almost always find a coconut/shaved ice vendor:

- Right next to the Red Anchor in San Nicolas, on the way to Baby Beach.
- Along the main road next to the airport field.
- At the California Light House.
- At the Alto Vista Chapel.

These vendors may also sell other delights, like the beloved coconut-based dessert "cocada" or peanuts. All in all, in Aruba, you can always find some place to take a break and have a bite of something local, you maybe just might have to look for them!

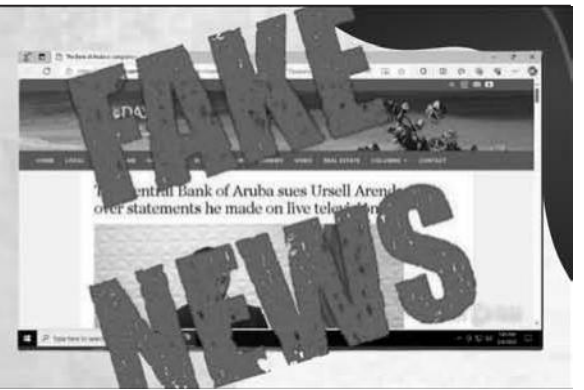
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Aruba's cultural and literary development: Then and now

(Oranjestad)—The Aruban culture has seen many substantial developments over the course of a century. With the introduction of the Lago Refinery at the turn of the 20th century, followed by the breakout of the Second World War and the general incentive for political independence during the mid-century, a cultural identity on the island began to take form and have since developed through international and local influences.



In the pre-industrial era of the 19th century, much could not be said about a cultural identity on the island. Still being a part of a Dutch colonial territory at the same, as well as not having political or economic autonomy (Curacao was the center of commerce, cultural life, and political management of the Netherland Antilles at the time), the small population of Aruba consisted mostly of farmers and fishermen, tending to their crops and their cattle, or going out to fish to provide for their family. As Quito Nicolaas states in his article *Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural* (Literary History of Aruba: Cultural Life), "during the pre-industrial period, there were no significant economic activity that could have created a cultural ambience, with only one way to generate profit at the time for the sub existence of Aruban families."

It wasn't until the introduction of the Lago Refinery in San Nicolas in 1928, that the island saw a small boom in cultural manifestations and entertainment, as farmers left the 'cunucu' (country) life to work in the refinery, which resulted in Aruba acquiring a different

economic pillar. Before this, entertainment and cultural manifestations were mostly experiences by local parishes and the island's elite, who often partook in cultural and entertaining activities around the island, like going to the movie theater or coming together to share poetry on Sundays after church.

Literary life

Throughout the 19th century and up until the 1940s, there were also not much trace of a cultural climate for the cultural-literary sector on the island. Primary education was introduced on the island mid-19th century, followed by secondary and higher education around the late 30's and 40's. It wasn't until the 1950s, with the introduction of the E.R.N.A agreement in 1951 and the signing of the Statute in 1954, which allowed more space for and control over the economic and cultural development of Aruba, that the literary life on the island began to grow substantially compared to decades before. This was in response to local institutions established in the 1940s for cultural and literary growth on the island, but that did not yet capture the attention of the gener-

al public. The 1950 brought with it a boom of literary production on the island, like those of V.S. Piternella, as well as migrant authors José Ramón Vicioso y Rings William Rufus, who have also contributed to the literary development on the island. The literary movement was further promoted by local broadcasters Voz di Aruba and Radio Kelboom, with their regular broadcast of literary works.

The 50s and 60s also saw the influence of international cultures, especially that of the United States. During this time, because of international influences as well as the continued prosperity

of the oil refinery, cultural traditions in Aruba began to really take form and become widespread, as different worldly and local concepts were introduced in the Aruban society. With the establishment of local television broadcast station Tele-Aruba in 1963, and with time and possibilities, local programs such as "Nos Tera" ("Our Land") started to pay more attention to the Aruban culture and worked to form a cultural consciousness in the community. The 1960s also saw the rise of local authors and artists, who were more comfortable in producing works in our native tongue, Papiamentu, but who also

produced works in Spanish, English and Dutch. This new phenomenon was in response to the interaction between economic growth, individual prosperity, cultural life and literary expression.

The 21st century

Nowadays, international influence on our culture is still prevalent, especially those from Latin America, the United States and The Netherlands. Nevertheless, there also exists a strong cultural identity and traditions that are exclusive to the Aruban culture, often manifesting during traditional celebrations, like Dia di San Juan/ Dera Gay (St. John's Day), Dia di Himno y Bandera (National Hymn and Flag Day), Camping during Easter and much more. With the surge of social media in the last decade, artistic voices, especially those of the younger generation, has become even more prevalent and easily accessible to the community of Aruba through online platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. □

Source: *Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural* by J.R. "Quito" Nicolaas



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

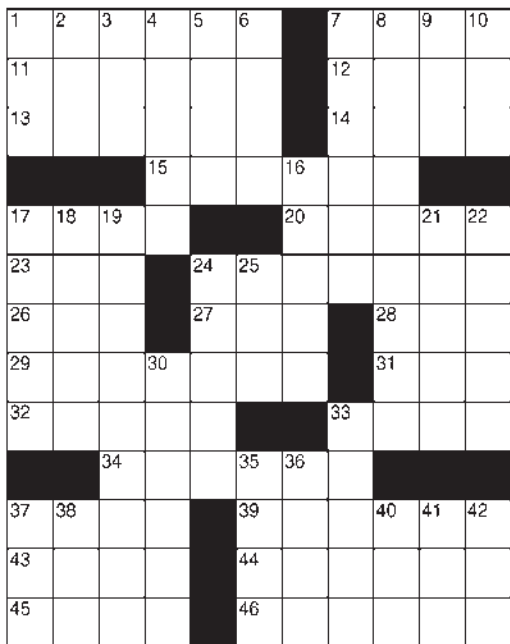
ACROSS

- 1 Predica-
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43 Foot
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44 Painter
Monet
45 Artist's
inspiration

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2 Semi-
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3 Beam of
light
4 Left on
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5 Llama's
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6 Adam's
home
7 Baltimore
player
8 Goes off
on a
tangent
9 Easter
quest
10 Put into
words
16 Rural busi-
nesses

- 17 Crumple
18 Detached
19 Fierce
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21 "Super-
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star
22 Michener
book
24 Un-
faithful
25 Pipeline
flow
30 Go
against
33 Routine
35 Engrave
36 Portion
(out)
37 Money
machine
38 Singer
Reed
40 Trophy
41 Sports
drink
suffix
42 Homer's
neighbor



5-10

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-10 CRYPTOQUOTE

IQ WQQN JQLEZ EP GQQ DQIW

FIN IQ CFN JQLEZ EP PVQTG

ZIQRWV. — TQWZT ZCZTG

Cryptoquote: LOOKING BACK, MY LIFE SEEMS LIKE ONE LONG OBSTACLE RACE, WITH ME AS THE CHIEF OBSTACLE. — JACK PAAR



Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the



store.

Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through

Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

CRUISE SHIP SCHEDULE	
20 MON	MARELLA DISCOVERY 2 Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 20:00 Berth: C
21 TUE	CARNIVAL VISTA Arrival: 13:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: C OASIS OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: I
22 WED	CELEBRITY SILHOUETTE Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: B SERENADE OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: C
28 TUE	CARNIVAL HORIZON Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 22:00 Berth: C

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

			2		1			9
5		1		8			7	3
				7	6	5		
	2				8		5	
		8				9	2	
1					2		4	8
	5							
8	3	9		2	5			
7			8				9	

Difficulty: ★★★

4/23

Answer to previous puzzle

7	8	9	5	2	4	6	1	3
4	2	3	1	7	6	5	8	9
6	1	5	3	8	9	7	4	2
8	6	4	2	5	3	1	9	7
5	9	7	4	6	1	2	3	8
1	3	2	7	9	8	4	6	5
3	5	6	9	4	2	8	7	1
9	7	8	6	1	5	3	2	4
2	4	1	8	3	7	9	5	6

Difficulty: ★★★

4/22

NASA unveils new space telescope to give 'atlas of the universe'

United States

NASA unveiled a new telescope on Tuesday to scan vast swathes of the universe for planets outside our solar system and probe the mysteries of dark matter and dark energy.

The Roman space telescope is expected to discover tens of thousands of planets, possibly offering clarity about how many could be out there.

"Roman will give the Earth a new atlas of the universe," NASA administrator Jared Isaacman told a news conference at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland, where the telescope went on display.

The 12-metre (39-feet), silvery contraption with massive solar panels will be transported to Florida ahead of a launch into space aboard a SpaceX rocket planned for September at the earliest.

Roman, which took more than \$4 billion and over a decade to build, is named after astronomer Nancy Grace Roman, nicknamed the "Mother of Hubble" for her role in developing the landmark space telescope.

Thirty-six years after Hubble launched into space, revolutionizing astronomical observations, NASA hopes Roman will help to shed light on questions that remain unresolved.

Boasting a field of view at least 100 times larger than Hubble's, the telescope will sweep across vast regions of space from its position 1.5 million kilometres (930,000 miles) from Earth. The telescope will send 11 terabytes of data a day down to Earth, said Mark Melton, a systems engineer at Goddard Space Flight Center.

"In the first year, we'll have sent down more data than Hubble will have for its entire life," he told AFP.

The telescope's wide-angle lens will allow NASA to conduct a census of the objects that make up our universe, said Nicky Fox,



NASA Administrator Jared Isaacman (L) speaks alongside Nicky Fox (2nd L), associate administrator of Science Mission Directorate, Jamie Dunn (2nd R), Roman telescope project manager, and Julie McEnery (R), Roman telescope senior project scientist, in front of the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope after it was unveiled to the public at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland on April 21, 2026.

associate administrator for NASA's Science Mission Directorate.

"Roman will discover tens of thousands of new planets outside our solar system. It will reveal billions of galaxies, thousands of supernovae and tens of billions of stars," she said.

This wealth of information will enable NASA to tease out areas of interest that can then be investigated by complementary telescopes, such as the James Webb Space Telescope.

- Study the invisible -

But Roman will also study the invisible dark matter and dark energy, whose origins remain unknown but which are thought to constitute 95 percent of

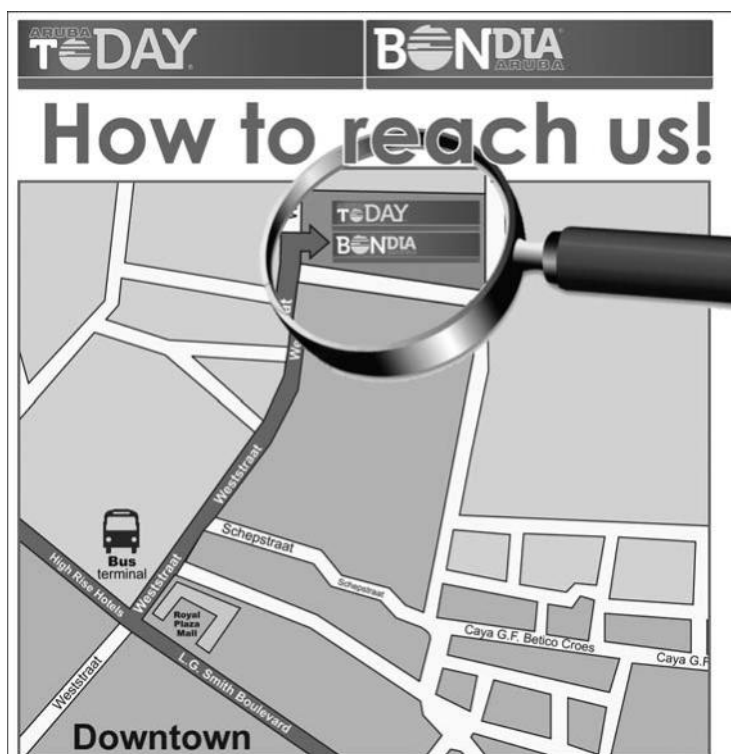
our universe.

Dark matter is believed to be the glue that holds galaxies together, while dark energy pulls them apart by making the universe expand faster and faster over time.

Thanks to its infrared vision, the telescope will be able to observe light emitted by celestial bodies billions of years ago, effectively looking back in time to hopefully discover more about the two phenomena. □

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1 BR 1 Bath

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House for sale

Savaneta ocean front

2 bedroom 2 bath

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House for sale

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2 min walk to mangel halto beach

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Palm beach

Gold season

3 BR 3 Bath sleep 10

Price :\$ 30,000

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Property land

Tanki leendert

10 min drive to eagle beach

488 m2 (5252,788 sq feet)

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(1076,391)

Price :\$ 360,675

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House for sale

Pos chigito

5 to 10 min drive to mangel halto

3 BR 2 bath

Lease land 500 m2 (5381,955

sq feet)

Price :\$390,000

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Oranjestad: Eagle
Tel. 587 9011

San Nicolas: Centro Medico
Tel. 584 5794

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police 100
Police Oranjestad 527 3140
Police Noord 527 3200
Police Sta. Cruz 527 2900
Police San Nicolas 584 5000
Police Tipline 11141
Ambulance 911
Fire Dept. 115
Red Cross 582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas 587 5900
Prof. Taxi 588 0035
Taxi D.T.S. 587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba 583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv. 280 2828

AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank
Tel. 588 0002
FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
Against Domestic Violence(FCVR)
Tel. 583 5400
Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Ziggy Stardust lives on at David Bowie London immersive

London, United Kingdom
Silhouetted against the light on stage in 1990, David Bowie belts out a deafening rendition of "Rebel Rebel" as a rapturous audience claps along with arms raised.

Rewind to 1973 and the iconic star is on stage at London's Hammersmith Odeon singing "Rock 'n' Roll Suicide" in his last show as Ziggy Stardust.

A decade after Bowie died in 2016 in New York at the age of 69, these are just some of the spellbinding moments captured in a new immersive, multi-media feature at London's Lightroom venue which opened Wednesday.

The show features Bowie performing live, including previously unseen footage, alongside rarely heard interviews.

It is the latest project dedicated to the singer, widely considered one of the most influential artists of the 20th century.

At the "cathedral-like"



People attend the multimedia show 'David Bowie: You're Not Alone', showcasing work from the British musical legend, at the Lightroom venue in Kings Cross in London on April 22, 2026.

Lightroom, images and footage are projected on to 11-metre (36-feet) high screens on all four walls as well as the floor.

Combined with a 360-degree sound system it's ideal for conveying Bowie's "genius as a live performer" and creating a sense of being there in the audience, according to writer and director Mark Grimmer.

"It's a social event. It's a crowd of people, you're there with other human beings," Grimmer told AFP.

For the show, Grimmer and co-director Tom Wexler ploughed through

countless hours of footage in the vast Bowie archive. Highlights of "David Bowie: You're Not Alone" include the star's Hammersmith Odeon performance. The concert famously featured in the DA Pennebaker film "Ziggy Stardust: The Motion Picture" (1983) which saw Bowie kill off the Ziggy persona.

- Icon and human being -

Another highlight is a 1978 performance of "Heroes" at London's Earl's Court when Bowie "was really at the peak of his power," Grimmer said.

Other footage includes Bowie at Live Aid in 1985 and performing "Starman" on the BBC chart programme Top of the Pops in 1972 dressed in a typically outlandish rainbow jumpsuit and boots.

Intercut with the footage is plenty of Bowie in his own words. The singer, who had his first major hit with "Space Oddity" in 1969, describes the bleakness of his London childhood and his search for "colour, exhilaration" and a "way out". "I think one of the things that we wanted to do is to

give an insight into Bowie the human being, as well as Bowie the icon," said Grimmer.

After listening to some of the many interviews he gave, what emerged was a "very humorous and self-deprecating" character, he added.

Bowie laughs as he describes himself as an "unlikely" rock star, compares himself to an "emperor penguin" and admits to a burning curiosity about everything in life "except country and western (music), of course".

Grimmer also focuses on Bowie's creative process which saw him endlessly reinvent himself.

- 'Float on life' -

Essentially a "shy person", Bowie, whose birth name was David Jones, struggled with performing on stage in the early years.

To overcome his inhibitions he would immerse himself in the characters he created such as the androgynous alien rock star Ziggy Stardust sent to Earth before an apocalypse.

When all the "theatrics" were removed, Bowie said he was basically a writer who gravitated towards the isolated and freakish "not regular guys".

"I'm a writer, that's what I do," he said. □

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Amy Winehouse's father loses suit against friends selling her clothes

London, United Kingdom
The father of music superstar Amy Winehouse on

Monday lost a UK lawsuit he brought against two of her friends, who auctioned



British singer Amy Winehouse (R) arrives with her father Mitch Winehouse at Westminster Magistrates Court in west London on March 17, 2009.

some of her clothes and other possessions years after her death.

The late singer's former stylist Naomi Parry and her friend Catriona Gourlay sold dozens of items, including a black Armani bag and dresses Winehouse wore on her last tour in June 2011.

The court heard arguments in a trial that they "took advantage" of her father's forgetfulness and pocketed more than \$1.4 million in sales.

Both denied acting dishonestly and said the items had been given or lent to them by the singer, even if there was no proof.

But Amy's father, Mitch Winehouse, sued the pair, alleging they did not have the right to sell the items, which went under the hammer between November 2021 and May 2023 by Los Angeles-based auctioneers.

Judge Sarah Clarke said in her written judgment that she found that "neither Ms Parry nor Ms Gourlay deliberately concealed any of their disputed items from the claimant".

"Even if I am wrong about that, Mr Winehouse could have discovered what disputed items the defendants had with reasonable diligence," she added. □

Blazers stun Spurs after Wemby injury, Lakers down Rockets

Los Angeles, United States

The Portland Trail Blazers exploited an injury to Victor Wembanyama to score an upset 106-103 victory over the second-seeded San Antonio Spurs in their NBA Western Conference playoff series on Tuesday.

San Antonio superstar Wembanyama, who had scored 35 points in the Spurs' game one win on Sunday, exited in the second quarter at the Frost Bank Center in Texas after hitting his head on the court floor following a collision with Portland's Jrue Holiday.

The 22-year-old looked groggy as he lay on the floor for several minutes before getting to his feet and jogging to the locker room.

The 7ft 4in (2.24m) forward was subsequently ruled out of the remainder of the game after entering the concussion protocol.

San Antonio looked to have overcome Wembanyama's injury as they pulled into a 14-point lead early in the fourth quarter, leading 93-79 with just over eight minutes left on the clock.

But with victory seemingly in sight, San Antonio's shooting went ice cold and the absence of newly crowned NBA defensive player of the year Wembanyama was



Victor Wembanyama #1 of the San Antonio Spurs holds his head after falling to the court against the Portland Trailblazers in the first half of Game Two of the Western Conference First Round NBA Playoffs at Frost Bank Center on April 21, 2026 in San Antonio, Texas.

keenly felt as a determined Portland snaffled victory, closing the fourth quarter with a 27-10 run.

Scoot Henderson led Portland's scoring with 31 points, while Holiday added 16.

"Basketball is a game of runs, and the basketball gods are always gonna repay the ones that play the game

right," Henderson told NBC television afterwards.

Game three of the best-of-seven series takes place in Portland on Friday.

- LeBron sparks Lakers -

Elsewhere Tuesday, the depleted Los Angeles Lakers produced another disciplined defensive effort to

defeat the Houston Rockets 101-94 and take a surprise 2-0 lead in their Western Conference first round series. With Luka Doncic and Austin Reaves injured in the final weeks of the regular season, many had all but written off the Lakers chances of mounting a serious challenge in the playoffs.

But LeBron James, Marcus Smart and Luke Kennard combined superbly to carry the Lakers to a second straight win over the Kevin Durant-led Rockets.

James finished with 28 points, while Smart added 25 and Kennard 23 to give the Lakers hope of advancing as the series heads to Houston for game three on Friday.

"As hard as we played in game one, we knew we had to double that in game two," James said.

"They were going to come in with desperation, so we had to be even more desperate. I thought we played a hell of a game.

"Our own mindset now is focused on game three," the 41-year-old NBA icon added.

"We know we're going into a hostile environment. Guys tend to play better at home than they do on the road so we have to be ready for that."

- Sixers bounce back -

In the Eastern Conference playoffs, Tyrese Maxey and VJ Edgecombe combined for 59 points as the Philadelphia 76ers scored a series-leveling 111-97 victory on the road over the Boston Celtics. □

French teenager Seixas becomes youngest Fleche Wallonne winner

Huy, Belgium

French prodigy Paul Seixas at 19 became the youngest winner of the La Fleche Wallonne one-day classic on Wednesday in his first ride in the race.

Seixas beat home Switzerland's Mauro Schmid and British rider Ben Tulett to replace Philemon De Meersman in the race's history books as the Belgian was 21 years old and 150 days when he won in 1936.

It was the dream preparation for an altogether tougher task in facing Slovenian great Tadej Pogacar, who was absent, at Liege-Bastogne-Liege on Sunday.

Pogacar, a two-time win-

ner of the Fleche Wallonne, could only finish 53rd on his debut in the race in 2019.

"It is unbelievable, this is a huge victory," said Seixas.

"I was just saying to myself last year I was watching the race on TV, and this year I have won it the first time I took part."

Seixas's opponents had no answer to his surge around 300 metres from the finishing line after a punishing climb.

"I went with my gut feeling to be honest," he said.

"I saw that everyone was at their limit, so I made an extra effort.

"I tried to gauge how my adversaries were and when I saw they were tiring

a bit, I said to myself I have to dig deep till the top of the climb."

Seixas finished with his right elbow bloodied, but he said it was not due to a fall and it was an old wound which opened when the peloton was tightly-packed.

Seixas is regarded as the finest talent France has produced in decades. He has backed that up this season by winning the Tour of the Basque Country stage race and the Ardeche Classic. He also finished runner-up in the Tour of the Algarve and the Strade Bianche.

However, whether he can beat both Pogacar and another big absentee from

Wednesday's race Remco Evenepoel, who won last Sunday's Amstel Gold classic, in the Liege-Bastogne-Liege is the big question.

"That is going to be a dif-

ferent level of challenge," said Seixas.

"Of course I will give it my all to win.

"Today, though, shows I am in great form." □



Decathlon CMA CGM Team's French Paul Seixas celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win 'La Fleche Wallonne' one day cycling race, 200 km from Herstal to Huy, on April 22, 2026.

PGA Tour mulls pathway back for golfers as LIV plots survival

Los Angeles, United States

The PGA Tour is exploring pathways for players to return from LIV Golf, even as the embattled break-away circuit scrambles to rebrand and retain its stars ahead of the rumored withdrawal of Saudi funding.

The golfing world was shaken last week by widespread reports that LIV only has support from Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund guaranteed until the end of the season, after which the high-spending tour would face a major financial deficit if it continues.

That has prompted speculation that the entire circuit could soon collapse, leaving marquee players like Bryson DeChambeau plotting their futures.



Bryson DeChambeau of Crushers GC plays his shot from the 17th tee prior to LIV Golf Mexico City at Club de Golf Chapultepec on April 15, 2026 in Mexico City.

Asked this week if the PGA tour had plans to welcome back defectors from rival LIV like DeChambeau, as it already has with five-time major winner Brooks Koepka, CEO Brian Rolapp said the PGA was "thinking about it."

"Brooks came back onto the tour because he made a phone call and said, 'Look, I'm out of my contract. I'm ready to come back,'" Rolapp told the Pat McAfee Show on Monday.

"So we're thinking about it. We'll react when we have an opportunity to react.

He added: "I'm interested in whatever makes the PGA Tour better."

Whether DeChambeau would want to return to the PGA Tour is not clear, particularly given the punitive financial terms already imposed on the likes of Koepka.

DeChambeau's wildly popular YouTube channel regularly draws over two million views per video, and he could feasibly choose to only play golf's four major tournaments.

Even if LIV Golf continues next season, DeChambeau's contract will be up, and The Athletic on Monday reported that the two-time major winner is demanding "up to \$500 million" to re-sign.

LIV Golf CEO Scott O'Neil, who last week told staff that the tour would continue "full throttle" this season, said the circuit would "probably" have to raise money going forward.

- 'OKGC' -

One option he has frequently touted is selling equity stakes in LIV's 13 teams. On Tuesday, the tour announced it was rebranding the Smash GC team formerly captained by Koepka as "OKGC", inspired by its new, Oklahoma City-native captain Talor Gooch. It has previously rebranded other teams to help attract fans, sponsors and potential investors from specific international markets, including "Korean Golf Club", and the all-South African "Southern Guards". □



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